

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, applicants request reconsideration.

Applicants note that claims 1-10 and 33-37 are found to be allowable. Further, applicants note that claims 17 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims. Claims 11 and 25 have been amended to include the limitation of claim 17 and 25, respectively, accordingly, applicants believe that all claims are now allowable.

The rejection of claims 11-15, 18, 19, 21-23, 26, 27 and 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by 5,654,168 to Bujard et al. ("Bujard") and claims 16 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness over Bujard in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,691,188 to Pausch is respectfully traversed.

Applicants believe that the present case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Sept 3, 2004

Date

Karla M. Weyand

Karla M. Weyand
Registration No. 40,223

Rogalskyj & Weyand, LLP
PO Box 44
Livonia, New York 14487-0044
Telephone (716) 626-5380
Telefax (716) 626-5384

Certificate of Mailing-37 CFR 1.8(a)
I hereby certify that this
correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service
as first class mailing an envelope
addressed to : Commissioner for Patents,
PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,
on the date below.

Sept. 3, 2004
Date

Karla M. Weyand
Karla M. Weyand